Hyclcl Capacity of 3000 MW shall be Rs. 18000 crore. The total fund requirement is of the order of Rs. 132000 crore. NTPC proposes to fund its capacity addition programme in a debt equity ratio of 70 : 30. The total equity/ internal resource requirement works out to Rs. 40000 crore. Since NTPC is not in receipt of any budgetary support from the Government of India, the equity portion is required to be funded out of internal resources generated by NTPC.

Financial closure of I.P.P.

4061. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have pointed out that State Governments would have to assume responsibility for achieving financial closure of independent power projects;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has also pointed out that States would have to ensure financial closure of 16 major power projects before March 31st, 2001;

(c) the total number of projects that are being considered for closure;

(d) how many of such power projects have been closed; and

(e) to what extent it has affected the power position ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER : (SHRIMATI J AYA WANTI MEHTA): (a) to (e) One of the main reasons for many Independent Power Producers not achieving financial closure is the inability of State Electricity Boards to offer an adequate payment security mechanism. With a view to identify an acceptable payment security mechanism for Independent Power Producers (IPPs), in the eighth meeting of the Crisis Resolution Group (CRG) held on March 30,2000 under the chairmanship of Minister of Power, various alternatives to escrow were discussed, *in* this meeting, it was decided that financing of IPPs, from the concerned State Governments, should be linked with the progress of reforms undertaken by the State Governments. The Financial Institutions have agreed to undertake financing of IPPs on the basis of a legally binding agreement to be made by State Governments to provide escrow before Commercial Operation Date instead of the present practice of escrow at the time of financial closure. 16 power projects totalling 6887 MW were identified for removal of the Mast mile' problems by March 31, 2001. Out of these, while one project [Surat

Thermal Power Project (156 MW) of M/s Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation] has reported achievement of financial closure, six other projects with a total capacity of 2239 MW in Andhra Pradesh may achieve financial closure soon with the initialing of Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) among Government of Andhra Pradesh/APTRANSCO, Power Finance Corporation and the Financial Institutions led by the Industrial Development Bank of India on August, 10,2001. The remaining projects are closely monitored for removing the 'last mile' problems which would facilitate achievement of financial closure.

Withdrawal of staff from NREB

4062. MISS FRIDA TOPNO : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether NREB is a subordinate office of Central Electricity Authority;

(b) whether it was decided in NREB's 41 st Meeting held on 12th August, 1977 to post staff from various State Electricity Boards to Northern Regional Electricity Board on informal deputation basis;

(c) whether SEBs have decided to take back their staff from the NREB, if so, the details of Board's decision in this regard; and

(d) whether all the SEBs are governed by the Ministry of Power in regard to selection, posting and transfer of their staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) SEB staff were deployed in NREB on an informal basis. The officials of the SEBs/Utilities working in the NREB, have already been relieved by NREB, with the instructions to report back to their respective Headquarters. NREB/CEA have been directed to make an assessment of the staff requirement oftheREB.

(d) No, Sir. The SEBs have powers in regard to selection, posting and transfer of their staff within their offices.

Wasteland in Jharkhand, Gujarat and Chhattisgarh

4063. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of districts of Uttaranchal, Gujarat and Chhattisgarh where the wasteland is available;